IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth below in marked-up form. In accordance with the revised amendment format now permitted, a clean copy of the claims has been omitted.

1. (amended) A flat cathode-ray tube comprising an electron gun having a main focus lens whose center coincides with a tube axis, a deflection yoke, and a magnet disposed outside of a neck, characterized in that a prefocus lens of the electron gun is separated from the tube axis; and

characterized in that an electron beam at the time of non-deflection is irradiated on a screen inoperative portion except a frit junction portion of a tube body, wherein the frit junction portion is not deteriorated to enhance reliability of the flat cathode-ray tube.

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2. Canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

3. (amended) An electron gun for a flat cathode-ray tube comprising a cathode and a plurality of grids, characterized in that a prefocus lens is separated from a center axis of an electron gun in a direction in which an axis-separating amount of an electron beam caused by a magnetic field of a magnet which is disposed outside of a neck becomes smaller; and

means for correcting the electron beam whose axis is separated so that said electron beam passes through a center of a main focus lens, whereupon halation caused by coma aberration is reduced and resolution is enhanced.

4. (allowable, amended to include the subject matter of its base claim 3) [The] An electron gun for [the] a flat cathode-ray tube [according to claim 3] comprising a cathode and a plurality of grids, characterized in that a prefocus lens is separate from a center axis of an electron gun in a direction in which an axis-separating amount of an electron beam caused by a magnetic field of a magnet which is disposed outside of a neck becomes small, and further characterized in that centers of electron beam through holes of first and third grids of the plurality of grids coincide with a center axis of the electron gun, and a center of an electron beam through hole of second grid is separated from the center axis.

5. (allowable, retained unamended) The electron gun for the flat cathode-ray tube according to claim 4, characterized in that an axis-separating amount of the center of the electron beam through hole of the second grid is 0 to -30 μm (0 is not included).

6. (allowable, amended to include the subject matter of its base claim 3 and to overcome section 112 rejection) [The] An electron gun for [the] a flat cathode-ray tube[according to claim 3], characterized in that a prefocus lens is separated from a center axis

of an electron gun in a direction in which an axis-separating amount of an electron beam caused by a magnetic filed of a magnet which is disposed outside of a neck becomes smaller, and further characterized in that centers of electron beam through holes of first and third grids of the plurality of grids coincide with a center axis of the electron gun, and an end surface having an electron beam [the] through hole of a second grid is inclined with respect to the center axis.

7. (amended consistent with allowable claim 4) A producing method of an electron gun for a flat cathode-ray tube, comprising the steps of:

preparing a first grid having an electron beam through hole formed at a reference position and having a positioning hole formed at another reference position, and preparing a second [grip] grid having an electron beam through hole separated from a reference position by a predetermined distance and having a positioning hole formed at another reference position, and

inserting positioning means in the positioning holes of the first and second grids for positioning the first and second grids in a state that a spacer is interposed between the first and second grids.

8. A producing method of an electron gun for a flat cathode-ray tube, comprising the steps of:

preparing a first grid having an electron beam through hole formed at a reference position and having a positioning hole formed at another reference position, and preparing a second grid having an electron beam through hole formed at a reference position and having a positioning hole formed at another reference position, and

inserting positioning means in the positioning holes of the first and second grids for positioning the first and second grids such that an end surface having an electron beam through hole of the second grid is inclined with respect to the first grid in a state that a tapered spacer is interposed between the first and second grids.

9. (newly-added) The electron gun for the flat cathode-ray tube according to claim 4 wherein said first grid has an electron beam through hole formed at a reference position, and further comprising a second grid having an electron beam through hole separated from a reference position by a predetermined distance and having a positioning hole formed at another reference position, said positioning holes in said first and second grids being sized to receive position means therein so that a spacer is interposed between the first and second grids.

10. (newly-added) The electron gun for the flat cathode-ray rube according to claim 9, wherein said positioning means positions the first and second grids such that an end surface having an electron beam through hole of the second grid is inclined with respect to the first grid in a state that a tapered spacer is interposed between the first and second grids.